

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a disorder of the ~~central nervous system (CNS) and/or the eye~~ comprising administering to a subject a composition comprising a dsRNA between 15 and 30 nucleotides in length ~~compound~~ capable of modulating a target gene or gene product in a therapeutically effective amount, wherein said composition is administered outside ~~the blood-brain and/or the blood-retina barriers, wherein said compound comprises a dsRNA.~~

2. (withdrawn) Use of a compound capable of modulating a target gene or gene product for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a disorder of the central nervous system (CNS) and/or the eye, wherein said composition is designed to be applied outside the blood-brain and/or blood-retina barriers.

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said disorder is related to angiogenesis and/or neovascularization.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said disorder is related to the retinal pigment epithelium (RPE), neurosensory retina, choroid ~~chorioid~~ ~~chorioid~~ ~~chorioid~~, and a combination thereof.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said disorder is wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD) or diabetic retinopathy.

7. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is applied to the inner segment of the eye ball.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form designed to be applied outside the retinal region of the blood-retina barrier.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said compound is an inhibitor/antagonist of said target gene ~~or gene product~~.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said antagonist/inhibitor inhibits the expression of a gene ~~or the activity of a gene product~~ involved in angiogenesis and/or neovascularization.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein said antagonist/inhibitor is ~~or is~~ derived from an nucleic acid molecule, ~~polypeptide, antibody, or a ligand-binding molecule~~ of said gene ~~or gene product~~.

12. (withdrawn) The method of claim 9, wherein said antagonist/inhibitor is a ribozyme, antisense or sense nucleic acid molecule to said gene or gene product.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein said antagonist/inhibitor substantially consists of ribonucleotides.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said dsRNA is between 21 and 23 nucleotides in length.

16. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the dsRNA molecule contains a terminal 3'-hydroxyl group.

17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein the nucleic acid molecule represents an analogue of naturally occurring RNA.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the nucleic acid molecule differs from the nucleotide sequence of said gene or gene product by addition, deletion, substitution or modification of one or more nucleotides.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said gene or a cDNA thereof comprises ~~a nucleotide sequence or encodes an amino acid sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 3.~~

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said compound is a nucleic acid molecule or encoded by a nucleic acid molecule and is designed to be expressed in cells of the ~~CNS or eye~~.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form designed to be introduced into the cells or tissue of the ~~CNS or eye~~ by a suitable carrier, characterized by the application occurring outside the ~~blood-brain or blood-~~ retina barriers.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is designed for systemic administration or for administration by iontophoresis.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is designed for retrobulbar application ~~or as eye drops~~.

Claims 24-91 (canceled)

92. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is designed as eye drops.

93. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said dsRNA is between 20 and 25 nucleotides in length.